CLAIMS

- 1. A process for purifying a product, said process comprising microfiltration of a fermentation broth containing the product at a microfiltration temperature within the range from 66 °C to 90 °C.
- 2. The process according to claim 1, wherein said microfiltration is performed in the absence of activated carbon.
- 3. The process according to claim 1, wherein the microfiltration temperature is within the range from 70 °C to 90 °C.
- 4. The process according to claim 1, wherein the microfiltration temperature is within the range from 70 °C to 80 °C.
- 5. The process according to claim 1, wherein the microfiltration is performed as a cross flow microfiltration.
- 6. The process according to claim 5, wherein the microfiltration process is performed with a vibrating microfiltration membrane.
- 7. The process according to claim 5, wherein the microfiltration process is performed with backshock.
- 8. The process according to claim 1, wherein the microfiltration process is performed using a microfiltration membrane formed from a material selected from the group consisting of natural polymers, synthetic polymers, ceramics, metals and mixtures thereof
- 9. The process according to claim 1, wherein the microfiltration process is performed using a polysulphone membrane.
- 10. The process according to claim 1, wherein the microfiltration process is performed as a batch process.

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- 11. The process according to claim 1, wherein the microfiltration process is performed as a continuous process.
- 12. The process according to claim 1, wherein the microfiltration process is followed by an ultrafiltration process.
- 13. The process according to claim 12, wherein the cut-off value of the ultrafiltration membrane is lower than four times the molecular weight of the fermentation-derived product.
- 14. The process according to claim 12, wherein the cut-off value of the ultrafiltration membrane is lower than twice the molecular weight of the fermentation-derived product.
- 15. The process according to claim 12, wherein the cut-off value of the ultrafiltration membrane is lower than the molecular weight of the fermentation-derived product.
- 16. The process according to claim 1, wherein the microfiltration process is followed by at least one chromatographic step or at least one precipitation step.
- 17. The process according to claim 1, wherein the product is at temperatures higher than 60 C for less than 60 minutes.
- 18. The process according to claim 1, wherein the product is at temperatures higher than 60 C for less than 30 minutes.
- The process according to claim 1, wherein the product is at temperatures higher than 60
 C for less than 15 minutes.
- 20. The process according to claim 1, wherein the product is at temperatures higher than 60 C for less than 10 minutes.
- 21. The process according to claim 1, wherein the product is a protein.
- 22. The process according to claim 21, wherein said protein is a microbially derived protein.

- 23. The process according to claim 22, wherein the host cell producing said protein is selected from the group consisting of E. coli, Saccharomyces, Pichia, Candida and Kluyveromyces.
- 24. The process according to claim 22, wherein said protein is a pharmaceutical protein or a precursor thereof.
- 25. The process according to claim 21 wherein the product is a protein with a molar weight of less than 25000 Dalton.
- 26. The process according to claim 21 wherein the product is a protein with a molar weight of less than 10000 Dalton.
- 27. The process according to claim 21 wherein the product is a protein with a molar weight of less than 7000 Dalton.
- 28. The process according to claim 21 wherein the product is a protein with a molar weight of less than 4000 Dalton.
- The process according to claim 21, wherein said protein is selected from the group consisting of glucagons-like peptide 1 (GLP-1), glucagons-like peptide 2 (GLP-2), glucagon, trefoil factor (TFF) peptides, interleukins, insulin, albumin, precursors thereof and analogs of any of the foregoing.
- 30. The process according to claim 29, wherein said protein is selected from the group consisting of human insulin, a human insulin precursor, a human insulin analog, a human insulin analog precursor, and Arg³⁴-GLP-1(7-37).
- 31. The process according to claim 29, wherein said protein is selected from the group consisting of Arg³⁴-GLP-1(7-37), Gly⁸-GLP-1(7-36)-amide, Gly⁸-GLP-1(7-37), Val⁸-GLP-1(7-36)amide, Val⁸-GLP-1(7-37), Val⁸Asp²²-GLP-1(7-36)-amide, Val⁸Asp²²-GLP-1(7-37), Val⁸Glu²²-GLP-1(7-36)-amide, Val⁸Glu²²-GLP-1(7-37), Val⁸Lys²²-GLP-1(7-36)-amide, Val⁸Lys²²-GLP-1(7-37), Val⁸Arg²²-GLP-1(7-36)-amide, Val⁸Arg²²-GLP-1(7-37), Val⁸His²²-GLP-1(7-36)-amide, Val⁸His²²-GLP-1(7-37), Val⁸Trp¹⁹Glu²²-GLP-1(7-37), Val⁸Glu²²Val²⁵-GLP-1(7-37), Val⁸Tvr¹⁶Glu²²-GLP-1(7-37), Val⁸Trp¹⁶Glu²²-GLP-1(7-37), Val⁸Leu¹⁶Glu²²-GLP-1(7-37). Val⁸Tyr¹⁸Glu²²-GLP-1(7-37), Val⁸Glu²²His³⁷-GLP-1(7-37), Val⁸Glu²²Ile³³-GLP-1(7-37).

Val⁸Trp¹⁶Glu²²Val²⁵Ile³³-GLP-1(7-37), Val⁸Trp¹⁶Glu²²Ile³³-GLP-1(7-37), Val⁸Glu²²Val²⁵Ile³³-GLP-1(7-37), Val⁸Trp¹⁶Glu²²Val²⁵-GLP-1(7-37) and analogs thereof.

- 31. The process according to claim 29, wherein said protein is selected from the group consisting of: K30R-GLP-2(1-33); S5K-GLP-2(1-33); S7K-GLP-2(1-33); D8K-GLP-2(1-33); E9K-GLP-2(1-33); M10K-GLP-2(1-33); N11K-GLP-2(1-33); T12K-GLP-2(1-33); I13K-GLP-2(1-33); L14K-GLP-2(1-33); D15K-GLP-2(1-33); N16K-GLP-2(1-33); L17K-GLP-2(1-33); A18K-GLP-2(1-33); D21K-GLP-2(1-33); N24K-GLP-2(1-33); Q28K-GLP-2(1-33); S5K/K30R-GLP-2(1-33); S7K/K30R-GLP-2(1-33); D8K/K30R-GLP-2(1-33); E9K/K30R-GLP-2(1-33); M10K/K30R-GLP-2(1-33); N11K/K30R-GLP-2(1-33); T12K/K30R-GLP-2(1-33); I13K/K30R-GLP-2(1-33); L14K/K30R-GLP-2(1-33); D15K/K30R-GLP-2(1-33); N16K/K30R-GLP-2(1-33); L17K/K30R-GLP-2(1-33); A18K/K30R-GLP-2(1-33); D21K/K30R-GLP-2(1-33); N24K/K30R-GLP-2(1-33); Q28K/K30R-GLP-2(1-33); K30R/D33K-GLP-2(1-33); D3E/K30R/D33E-GLP-2(1-33); D3E/S5K/K30R/D33E-GLP-2(1-33); D3E/S7K/K30R/D33E-GLP-2(1-33); D3E/D8K/K30R/D33E-GLP-2(1-33); D3E/E9K/K30R/D33E-GLP-2(1-33); D3E/M10K/K30R/D33E-GLP-2(1-33); D3E/N11K/K30R/D33E-GLP-2(1-33); D3E/T12K/K30R/D33E-GLP-2(1-33); D3E/I13K/K30R/D33E-GLP-2(1-33); D3E/L14K/K30R/D33E-GLP-2(1-33); D3E/D15K/K30R/D33E-GLP-2(1-33); D3E/N16K/K30R/D33E-GLP-2(1-33); D3E/L17K/K30R/D33E-GLP-2(1-33); D3E/A18K/K30R/D33E-GLP-2(1-33); D3E/D21K/K30R/D33E-GLP-2(1-33); D3E/N24K/K30R/D33E-GLP-2(1-33); D3E/Q28K/K30R/D33E-GLP-2(1-33); and precursors thereof
- 32. The process according to claim 21, wherein said protein is exendin-3, exendin-4 or analogs thereof and precursors of any of the foregoing.
- 33. The process according to claim 32, wherein said protein is ZP-10 (HGEGTFTSDLSKQMEEEAVRLFIEWLKNGGPSSGAPPSKKKKKK-NH2).